

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 11 as follows:

11. (Amended) A laminate comprising the polyamide film of claim 8.

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are pending herein. The Office Action rejects claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; and rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This amendment amends the specification and claim 11. No new matter is added.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment places the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein) or places the application into better form for appeal should an appeal be necessary. The Amendment does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims, does not raise the issue of new matter, and does not raise any new issues requirement additional search and/or consideration since the Amendment is directed to subject matter previously considered during prosecution. Furthermore, the amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are in response to issues raised in the Final Rejection. The Amendment merely amends the specification to correct errors made during translation and amends claim 11 to correct a typographical error. Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment.

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claim 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not adequately disclosed in the original specification. The Office Action alleges that the phrase further defining the acetylene glycol of the claimed polyamide

film defined in claim 8 at lines 5-6 is not adequately described in the specification.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is improper because the subject matter of claims 8-14 is adequately supported by the original specification. More specifically, although the specification at page 5, lines 22-24, discloses that the acetylene glycol in the present invention is one wherein two adjacent triple bonded carbon atoms are replaced with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group, Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the disclosure at lines 22-24 is intended to convey that each carbon atom immediately adjacent to a triple bonded carbon atom is to be substituted with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that because the disclosure at lines 22-24 is chemically incorrect, one of ordinary skill in the art would readily recognize that the disclosure at lines 22-24 was incorrectly translated and was intended to convey that each carbon atom immediately adjacent to a triple bonded carbon atom is to be substituted with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group. Clearly, if each triple bonded carbon atom were to be replaced with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group the resulting compound would no longer constitute an acetylene glycol. Accordingly, this Amendment amends the specification at page 5, lines 22-29, so that the specification clearly conveys that the acetylene glycol of the claimed polyamide film is one in which each carbon atom immediately adjacent to a triple bonded carbon atom is substituted with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group.

For at least these reasons, claims 8-14 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This Amendment amends claim 11 to overcome this rejection. Claim 11 satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Brian B. Diekhoff
Registration No. 46,353

JAO:BBD/rxg

Date: April 12, 2001

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--